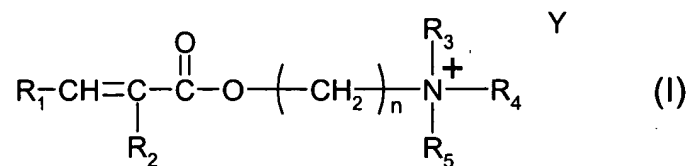


1. (original): A copolymer derived from the polymerization of
  - (a) at least one cationic monomer of formula (I),



wherein

R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen or methyl,

R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl,

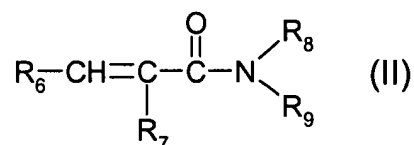
R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are independently from each other hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl,

n is a integer from 1 – 5, and

Y is a counterion,

and

- (b) at least one monomer of formula (II)



wherein

R<sub>6</sub> signifies hydrogen or methyl, and

R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> signify independently from each other hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl,

with the proviso that at least one of the substituents R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> is

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl,

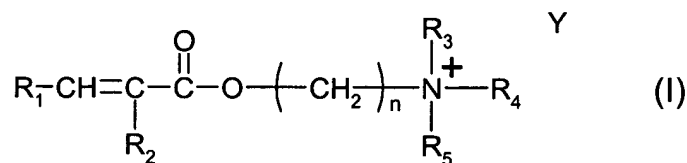
and

- (c) optionally at least one cross-linking agent, which contains at least two ethylenically unsaturated moieties.
2. (original): A copolymer according to Claim 1 characterized in that it consists of 20 – 95 wt-% of at least one monomer of formula (I) and of 5 – 50 wt-% of at least one monomer of formula (II).
  3. (currently amended): A copolymer according to Claim 1-~~or 2~~ characterized in that it consists of 40 – 90 wt-% of at least one monomer of formula (I) and of 10 – 40 wt-% of at least one monomer of formula (II).

4. (currently amended): A copolymer according to ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 characterized in that the copolymer comprises 50 – 500 ppm, ~~preferably 100 – 300 ppm~~ of at least one cross-linking agent based on the total amount of the copolymer.
  
5. (currently amended): A copolymer according to ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 characterized in that
 

$R_1$  is hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably hydrogen,~~  
 $R_2$  is hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably hydrogen,~~  
 $R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$  are independently from each other hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably methyl,~~  
 $n$  is an integer from 1 – 4, and  
 $Y$  is Cl; Br; I; hydrogensulfate or methosulfate.
  
6. (currently amended): A copolymer according to ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 characterized in that
 

$R_6$  signifies hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably hydrogen,~~  
 $R_7$  signifies hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably hydrogen,~~ and  
 $R_8$  signifies hydrogen or methyl, and  
 $R_9$  signifies hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably methyl,~~  
 with the proviso that at least one of the substituents  $R_6, R_7, R_8$  and  $R_9$  is methyl.
  
7. (currently amended): A copolymer according to Claim 1 derived from the polymerization of
  - (a) a cationic monomer of formula (I),

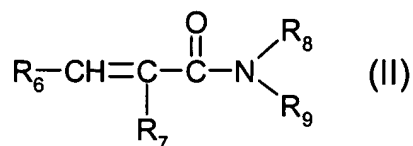


wherein

$R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$  are independently from each other hydrogen or methyl,  
 $n$  is 1, 2 or 3, and

$Y$  is a counterion, ~~preferably Cl; Br; I; hydrogensulfate or methosulfate,~~  
 and

- (b) a monomer of formula (II)



wherein

R<sub>6</sub> signifies hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably hydrogen,~~

R<sub>7</sub> signifies hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably hydrogen, and~~

R<sub>8</sub> signifies hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably methyl, and~~

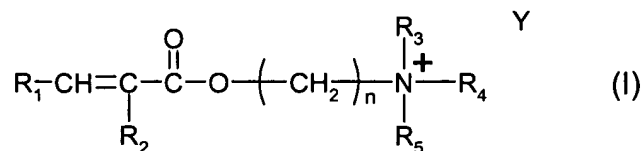
R<sub>9</sub> signifies hydrogen or methyl, ~~more preferably methyl,~~

with the proviso that at least one of the substituents R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> is methyl, and

- (c) optionally at least one cross-linking agent selected from the group consisting of tetra allyl ammonium chloride; allyl-acrylamides and allyl-methacrylamides; bisacrylamidoacetic acid and/or N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide, ~~preferably tetra allyl ammonium chloride and/or N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide.~~

8. (currently amended): A copolymer according to Claim 7 derived from the polymerization of 20 – 95 wt-% of at least one cationic monomer of formula (I), ~~more preferably of 40 – 90 wt-% of at least one cationic monomer of formula (I),~~ and  
of 5 – 50 wt-%, ~~more preferably of 10 – 40 wt-%~~ of at least one monomer of formula (II) and  
of 50 – 500 ppm (based on the total amount of monomers), ~~more preferably of 100 – 300 ppm (based on the total amount of monomers)~~ of at least one compound of selected from the group consisting of tetra allyl ammonium chloride; allyl-acrylamides and allyl-methacrylamides; bisacrylamidoacetic acid and/or N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide, ~~more preferably tetra allyl ammonium chloride and/or N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide.~~

9. (currently amended): A copolymer according to Claim 1 derived from the polymerization of  
(a) 40 – 90 wt-% of a cationic monomer of formula (I),



wherein

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are hydrogen,

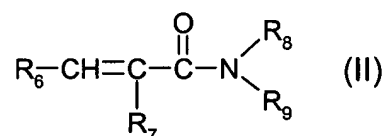
R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are methyl,

n is 1, 2 or 3, ~~preferably 2~~, and

Y is Cl; Br; I; hydrogensulfate or methosulfate, ~~preferably Cl~~,

and

- (b) 10 – 40 wt-% of a monomer of formula (II)



wherein

R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> signify hydrogen,

R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> signify methyl,

and

- (c) ~~of~~ 100 – 300 ppm of tetra allyl ammonium chloride and/or N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide.

10. (currently amended): A method of preparing a water- and/or oil-based personal care composition which comprises incorporation ~~Use of a copolymer according to claim 1 into said composition~~ ~~anyone of the preceding Claims for water- and/or oil-based compositions,~~ ~~preferably for water- and/or oil-based personal care compositions.~~
11. (currently amended): An oil/water- based personal care composition which comprises:  
0.5 – 10 wt-% of at least one copolymer according to Claim 1, ~~[[ - 8]]~~  
2 – 25 wt-% of at least one oil-component,  
0 – 25wt-% of at least one adjuvant and/or additive, and  
water up to 100 wt-%.
12. (currently amended): ~~An A-typical~~ oil-based personal care composition which comprises  
0.5 – 10 wt-% of at least one copolymer according to Claim 1, ~~[[ - 8]]~~  
50 – 99 wt-% of at least one oil-component, and  
0 – 25 wt-% of at least one adjuvant and/or additive.
13. (new): A copolymer according to claim 5 characterized in that  
R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen,

R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen,  
R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are methyl,  
n is an integer from 1 – 4, and  
Y is Cl; Br; I; hydrogensulfate or methosulfate.

14. (new): A copolymer according to claim 6 characterized in that

R<sub>6</sub> signifies hydrogen,  
R<sub>7</sub> signifies hydrogen, and  
R<sub>8</sub> signifies hydrogen or methyl, and  
R<sub>9</sub> signifies methyl.

15. (new): A copolymer according to claim 8 derived from the polymerization of  
40 – 90 wt-% of at least one cationic monomer of formula (I),  
and  
10 – 40 wt-% of at least one monomer of formula (II)  
and  
100 – 300 ppm (based on the total amount of monomers) of at least one compound selected  
from the group consisting of tetra allyl ammonium chloride and N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide.